

## SHRUBS

*Azalea nudiflora*, in leaf; *Ceanothus americanus*, very abundant on Brush Mountain, in flower; *Comptonia peregrina*, also more common on Brush Mountain, in leaf; *Gaylussacia baccata*, in fruit; *Kalmia latifolia*, in fruit, *Oxycoccus erythrocarpus*, on Bald Knob; *Rosa virginiana*, in flower; *Rubus odoratus*, in flower; *Sambucus canadensis*, near the Cascade, in fruit; and *Viburnum alnifolium*, in fruit.

## TREES

*Acer pennsylvanicum*, *A. rubrum*, *A. saccharinum*, and *A. saccharum*; *Alnus rugosa*; *Carpinus caroliniana*; *Celtis occidentalis*; *Cynxoylon floridum*; *Fagus grandifolia*; *Fraxinus americana*; *Hamamelis virginiana*; *Hicoria glabra* and *H. ovata*; *Juglans cinerea* and *J. nigra*; *Juniperinus virginiana*; *Liriodendron Tulipifera*; *Magnolia acuminata*; *Nyssa sylvatica*; *Oxydendrum arboreum*, in flower; *Pinus rigida* and *P. Strobus*; *Prunus americana*; *Quercus alba*, *Q. coccinea*, *Q. palustris*, *Q. Prinus*, *Q. rubra*, and *Q. velutina*; *Robinia Pseudo-Acacia*, badly attacked by *Fulvifomes Robiniae*; *Sassafras Sassafras*; *Sorbus americana*, on Bald Knob; *Tilia americana*, in flower; *Tsuga canadensis*; and *Ulmus americana*.

As may be judged from the above account, the flora of Mountain Lake is similar to that described in TORREYA a few years ago for Apple Orchard Mountain in the Blue Ridge, but the Carolina rhododendron and a few other striking elements are absent.

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## NOTES ON SCLEROPOA

By J. C. NELSON

At the end of a rambling series of notes on "Some Oregon Exotics" in the American Botanist for November, 1918 (24: 129), attention was called to the discovery of *Scleropoa rigida* (L.) Griseb. at Salem, Oregon in May, 1917. Since the plants found at that time were growing precariously in the crevices of an old brick building in the business district, and were looked upon with extreme disfavor by the street-commissioner, it did not seem prudent to regard the species as a permanent addition to our flora. Since that time the building has been changed from a junk-shop to an automobile-station, and an attempt has been made to eradicate the weeds by which it was originally surrounded and restore the neglected street-parking; but in spite of all these "improvements" the grass has stubbornly reappeared each season, and this year (1920) has established itself profusely

in the parking adjacent to the building. Since it matures abundant seed very early, before the dry season sets in, it seems not unreasonable to suppose that we may begin to number it among our permanent grass-population.

As this is undoubtedly the first record of *Scleropoa* in Oregon, I have made some effort to determine to what extent it has appeared elsewhere in the United States. An examination of our three largest herbaria—the National, the Gray, and the New York Botanical Garden, shows a representation outside of Oregon as follows:

## ALABAMA

- Fort Morgan, S. M. Tracy, Apr. 27, 1901 (Nat.)  
 Fort Morgan, S. M. Tracy, Apr. 27, 1901 (Gray)  
 Fort Morgan, collector not stated, (N.Y.)  
 Mobile, "Ballast-grounds," Chas. Mohr, June 28, 1885  
 (Nat.)  
 Mobile, "Ballast-grounds," Chas. Mohr, No. 5 (Nat.)

## FLORIDA

- Apalachicola, "Wharves," Chapman (Nat.)  
 Apalachicola, "Streets," Geo. Thurber (Gray)

## MASSACHUSETTS

- Boston, C. E. Perkins, July 17, 1878 (Nat.)

## SOUTH DAKOTA

- Brookings, Matt. Fowlds, July, 1917 (Nat.)

It will be observed that most of these labels are rather imperfectly provided with data as to date and habitat, but the Boston specimen would appear to be the earliest collection, and with the exception of the Brookings plant, all the recorded specimens are from localities on or very near the coast, clearly indicating a foreign origin. Since the South Dakota station is in such marked contrast to the others, I have asked Professor Fowlds, in charge of the Seed Laboratory at the South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, to give me the circumstances under which the grass was first collected. He writes:

"In 1915 a grass-garden was established at this station. Many of the grass-samples for this purpose were secured for us by a seedhouse. Some of these samples came from various points in Europe. The *Scleropoa rigida* occurred as an impurity in one of these samples. We have no means of knowing where the sample originated. Only one plant of this grass appeared, but the seed was collected and the grass propagated for a year or two. This grass can be propagated only with difficulty and never gave evidence of persisting on its own account. Several specimens of this plant have been preserved in our herbarium."

It is evident from the above that the Brookings plant never rose above the status of a waif, and could not be regarded as a part of the local flora. The station at Salem seems therefore to represent the farthest point inland at which the grass has established itself in the United States. How it came here remains unexplained, as there does not appear to have been any storage of foreign goods in the building where it was first found.

The European native range of the grass seems to be limited to the Mediterranean region from southern France to Montenegro, with an outlying area in Belgium; but it has spread widely through southern and central Europe as a naturalized plant, according to Hackel even reaching England.

In general habit the grass attracts instant notice by its very rigid open panicle, which suggests that of *Festuca elatior* on a small scale, but with a stiff, unyielding effect which gives a certain resemblance to the fertile frond of various dimorphic ferns (e.g., *Cryptogramma acrostichoides*). In general it would be taken for a *Festuca* by one encountering it for the first time; and as a matter of fact, the genus stands taxonomically very close to *Festuca*, from which it appears to differ chiefly in its punctiform hilum. Its exact relationship has been a matter of very various interpretation. Linnaeus, who first described it (Cent. Pl. 1: 5.1755) placed it in *Poa*. There is no evidence that he had a specimen before him, and his description appears to be based on a plate by Vaillant. Beauvois (Agrost. 167, 175. 1812) transferred the species to *Megastachya*, a genus no longer maintained; Link (Enum. 1: 90. 1821) placed it in *Sclerochloa*,

now regarded as a monotypic genus consisting of *S. dura* Beauv.; Smith (Engl. Fl. 1: 119. 1824) regarded it as a *Glyceria*; and Kunth (Rev. Gram. 1: 129. 1829) very tardily recognized the relationship to *Festuca* by placing it in that genus.

The genus *Scleropoa* was finally established by Grisebach (Spic. Fl. Rumel. 2: 431. 1845) and was made to include but the one species *S. rigida*. Since that time various concepts of the genus have prevailed. Parlatore in 1848 recognized seven Italian species. Boissier in 1884 recognized seven species in his Flora Orientalis. Twelve binomials are given under *Scleropoa* in the Index Kewensis. Hackel (in Engler & Prantl, Nat. Pflanzenfam. 2: 2, 75. 1887) states that there are "2 Arten," and names *S. rigida*. What he regards as the second one cannot be conjectured with certainty, although of the various species that have been proposed *S. Hemipoa* (Delile) Parl. (Fl. Ital. 1: 472. 1848), a native of Sicily, would seem to have perhaps the best claim to validity.

I am under obligation to Dr. J. H. Barnhart for compiling and verifying the bibliography of *Scleropoa*, and to Prof. A. S. Hitchcock, Dr. J. K. Small, Mr. J. F. Macbride and Prof. Matthew Fowlds for their information regarding herbarium specimens. Duplicates of my own collection have been deposited in each of the three large herbaria named above.

#### SHORTER NOTES

✓ A NEW OREGON EUCEPHALUS. **Eucephalus vialis**, sp. nov.—Stems slender, light green, about 12 dm. high, furnished with a glandular pubescence; leaves thin ovate-lanceolate, sessil or nearly so: dark green above, dull beneath, but not glaucous, slightly puberulent, the upper ones in the panicle especially so, and provided with stiff hairs on the margins, which are subentire; 2–11 cm. long, 5 mm.–3 cm. wide; the lower minute, usually obtuse, the upper acuminate; inflorescence of numerous heads in a panicle, the branches of the panicle, glandular, beset with spreading hirsute pubescence; heads rather small and narrow, ordinarily 10 mm. high, but often no more than 5 mm.; bracts of the involucre in